

Willis Brooks, 61, Dies From Heart Ailment at Home

A heart ailment from which he suffered for several years, claimed Willis Moore Brooks, 61, pioneer Torrance resident and civic leader, last Saturday night at his home, 1328 Portola ave. He was stricken Friday morning as he was about to leave for his work as chief clerk at the Pacific Electric shops.

Mr. Brooks, a lifelong student, took keen interest in many subjects and was an exceptionally well-read man. His home library is one of the most extensive in the city and he was a delightful conversationalist because of his knowledge of many arts and sciences.

The funeral services were conducted at St. Andrew's Episcopal church by Rev. Paul M. Wheeler Monday afternoon. Private cremation followed at Pacific Crest. The pall bearers were Robert Bellini, A. H. Bartlett, Roy Ringwald, Don Mitchell, Fred Hopkins and Charles Curtiss.

Served Weather Bureau
Mr. Brooks was born at Birmingham, N. Y., Oct. 6, 1881 and was educated at Washington, D. C., and Georgetown University. He was associated with the Federal Weather Bureau for a number of years as an observer. His uncle, Willis Luther Moore, was chief of the weather bureau and assistant secretary of agriculture.

He married Minnie A. Singlaub, May 19, 1907, at Independence, Calif., when he was serving as a special weather observer there. In addition to his widow, he leaves two sons, Dr. Phillips Moore Brooks and J. Comet Brooks; his father, Frank DeForest Brooks of Cincinnati, and an aunt, Mrs. Flora Smith of Binghamton.

Former City Councilman
His civic career here included service as master of the Torrance Masonic lodge in 1937, patron of the Order of Eastern Star in 1933 and member of the city council from April 1924 to June, 1927. He had been associated with the Pacific Electric since 1917 and held several offices in the P.E. club.

Sister of City's Founder Dies

Mrs. Jennie Torrance Welch, sister of Jared Sidney Torrance who founded this city, died Tuesday morning at her home in Los Angeles. She was born in June, 1856 at Gowanda, N. Y., and had lived in Southern California since 1910.

Rotarians to Hear Capt. Keefer Tonight

Rotarians are anticipating a rare treat at their dinner-meeting tonight in the Woman's clubhouse. Their speaker will be Capt. William E. Keefer of the Army Air Corps, who returned home here last Saturday for a brief leave. The airman, who has received two decorations, and was serving as operations officer at the time he left the European war zone, will relate some of his experiences in piloting a Liberator bomber in two war theaters.

Colorado Guests

Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Bodley entertained at dinner Friday evening for Mrs. Daisy Coleman and daughter, Mrs. Edna Dunbar and children, all of Boulder Colo. Mrs. W. F. Bugener and son, Dicky, were also guests.

No Extra Gasoline for Vacation Travel, OPA Chief Announces

There's no extra gasoline for vacation travel, for war workers or anyone else, Prentiss M. Brown, O.P.A. chief, announced this week.

Commenting on numerous requests for supplemental rations for vacation travel, particularly for war workers, Brown said such allowances obviously would help factory morale but "would be a luxury which we cannot afford in total war."

He added supplies of rubber and gasoline were too short, anyway.

He figured, however, that people who saved up the "free mileage" in their "A" books still could travel 360 miles on a trip without getting any extra rations. "A" books allow a theoretical 90 miles per month for unrestricted use.

Brown announced that motorists will be able to renew their "A" books by mail, but will have to go to their ration boards for supplementary books. Application blanks for "A" book renewals will be available at service stations after about June 22. The "A" books expire on July 21.

Youth Sells \$1000 War Bond at Rolling Hills

Those who persevere generally achieve their ambition. When the News interviewed Dick Friend, school boy war bond salesman of Rolling Hills a few weeks ago, Dick said that his great ambition was to sell and look at a \$1000 War Bond.

Yesterday when Earle Fishel, Lomita postmaster, got Dick's weekly report, he found a special envelope covered with stars and a jubilant report.

"I finally made it! Enclosed is an order for a \$1000 War Bond." The buyer was Alfred J. Klose of 36 Williamsburg road, Rolling Hills. Fishel sent Dick the \$1000 bond for delivery and the 13-year-old is mighty happy. Dick says that will pep him up to sell more and more bonds.

Parents Leave to See Son Win Air Corps Wings

Bound for Columbus, Miss., to see their son, Sgt. Robert R. Dobson, 21, receive his commission and pilot's wings at Army Air Corps graduation ceremonies Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Dobson of 2029 Gramercy ave., left today.

Sgt. Dobson has been looking forward to his wings since the day he joined the Army Air Force Feb. 1 at San Diego where he was working as a bookkeeper in a bank.

The Dobson family is all out for victory. The father is a member of the Coast Guard Reserve and is a member of the military police unit located at Terminal Island. Mrs. Dobson is assisting with the gas rationing program at one of the shipyards and Mrs. Dony's Albard, a daughter, is the wife of Lewis K. Albard, chief machinist, who is serving his second hitch in the Navy. He is serving aboard a sub chaser in the Atlantic.

Parents Leave to See Son Win Air Corps Wings

Sgt. Dobson, soon to be a lieutenant qualified to pilot a twin-motored plane, was born at Minneapolis, Kan., and was educated in schools there and attended business college at Hutchinson, Kan. He received basic training at Maxwell Field, Alabama, the oldest Air Force center in the country; took pre-flight training at Dorr Field, Fla., and was then sent to Bainbridge, Ga., for advanced flying. From there he was transferred to Columbus where he is due to graduate early next week.

Heart Attack Claims Plant Guard While At Target Practice

While target shooting at the Torrance police pistol range, Marinus William Gall, 63, Columbia Steel plant guard, suffered a heart attack and died almost instantly last Friday. He lived with his wife, Maria, at 741 West 103rd st.

A native of Holland, he had been in this country 40 years and lived in Southern California 23 years. He also leaves two sons, a daughter and four sisters.

The funeral service was conducted yesterday at Stone & Lee who announced that the interment will be in the Newland and Morgan of the Latter Day Saints church. Interment was at Inglewood cemetery.

CD Test Data Sent State Group

Although the inspecting Army-O.C.D. team of examiners indicated that they were well pleased with the performance of the Torrance Civilian Defense Corps during a series of test incidents last Friday night, the official report is not expected for a week or more.

All of the data accumulated by the examiners before and during the hour-long drill has been forwarded to the State Defense Council for inspection. A summary of the findings will be sent here for the guidance of local leaders, Police Chief John Strub said.

A large number of residents, in addition to most of the Civilian Defense volunteers, attended the review meeting held in the Civic Auditorium immediately following the drill.

Red Cross Drive Totals \$9,875

Three more contributions to the Red Cross War Fund, totaling \$63 were reported this week by Campaign Chairman Hillman Lee who announced that the total now stands at \$9,875.45.

One of the donors, Don Voorhis of 3730 Garnet st., contributed his winnings from the Torrance Auxiliary Police drawing conducted Monday night. The contributions were:

Previously acknowledged	\$9,812.45
Martin Tool & Die workers	48.00
Martin Tool & Die Works	10.00
Don Voorhis	5.00
TOTAL	\$9,875.45

Army-Navy 'E' Awarded N. S. Workers

Hundreds Cheer as Production Honor Conferred

Military Commends Men and Women at Impressive Program

Production-fighters on the home front, hundreds of National Supply workers yesterday received the highest wartime industrial award, the Army-Navy "E."

The new "Plancor" building which will soon be another thriving production unit of the oldest industrial firm in Torrance was jammed by workers and guests for the brief half-hour ceremony that was impressive in its simplicity and earnestness.

It was inspiring because it was their government's way of saying "thank you" to the thousands of National Supply men and women for a good job well done and an expressed belief that they will continue peak performance for the duration. The great new building was festooned with bunting and the large platform held more than a score of workers, plant executives, company officials and high-ranking Army, Navy and Marine Corps officers.

Fourth Unit Honored
The Torrance plant was fourth National Supply unit to be recognized by the nation's military leaders for excellent in production of war materials. Army-Navy "E" awards were given the Toledo, Ohio, plant in March, 1943; the Ambridge, Pa., plant in October, 1942. The Springfield, Ohio, plant, won the Maritime Commission award Dec. 17, 1942.

There was music by the lusty Coast Guard band directed by Rudy Vallejo of radio and motion picture fame. There were two new tanks on display. There were the brief, stop-watched speeches, timed to the second because the entire program was broadcast over the N.B.C. Blue network. Master of ceremonies was Lt. Col. G. M. Bates, Army Air Forces public relations officer. He read a congratulatory telegram sent to the employees by Gen. Eisenhower, commander of the victorious troops in Tunisia.

Rear Admiral Joseph R. DeFrees, U.S.N. Ret., inspector of Naval material, who spoke, while Lt. Col. Lawrence C. Ames, who made the presentation, is applauding in the right. Two captains of the plant guards are standing in front ready to receive the burgee and post it on a standard.



HONOR FLAG UNFURLED—Here is the climax of the ceremonies conducted yesterday at the National Supply plant's new "Plancor" building—the unfolding of the Army-Navy "E" burgee. Holding the flag at the left is President A. E. Walker of the National Supply Co., and at the right, his face hidden by the microphones, is R. R. Smith, personal manager. At the extreme left is Rear Admiral Joseph R. DeFrees, U.S.N. Ret., inspector of Naval material, who spoke, while Lt. Col. Lawrence C. Ames, who made the presentation, is applauding in the right. Two captains of the plant guards are standing in front ready to receive the burgee and post it on a standard.

Herald Editorial on Jap Problem Okayed by Union

Unanimous approval of The Herald's editorial of May 13 which criticized the action of the Gardena V.P.W. Post in removing names of Japanese-Americans serving with the armed forces from the Gardena honor roll was voted by Milky Williams Local Union 1414 of the United Steel Workers of America last Thursday night.

The action of the union and its opinion of the "Japanese problem" was reported in the following letter signed by Carl D. Steele, secretary pro tem:

"At the regular meeting of our Local last Thursday, May 13, your editorial in 'The Herald' was read and approved unanimously by Milky Williams Local Union 1414, United Steelworkers of America, and the Secretary was instructed to write commending you on your stand in regards to Americans in the armed forces.

"We agree that as long as men have no choice as to the country of their birth, and happened to be born in these United States, they should have the same rights and protection of our flag. Also the rights provided for them in the Constitution of the United States, whether they are of Italian, German, Japanese or any other nationality.

"Through our draft boards many German and Italians, who are not yet citizens of our country, are being drafted."

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Poppy Sale Proceeds This Weekend Aid Veterans' Rehabilitation

How the memorial poppies which will be worn to honor the war dead on Poppy Days tomorrow and Saturday will bring help to war's living victims was explained today by Gladys McAfee, treasurer of the Torrance American Legion Auxiliary. Mrs. McAfee is one of the many volunteer workers who will distribute the poppies on the streets. She said:

"Every penny of the money paid for poppies goes into the rehabilitation and welfare work of the American Legion and Auxiliary, and because this work is performed by volunteers, it goes a very long way. Disabled veterans and children left fatherless by war are the special concern of the Legion and Auxiliary. It is for them the poppy dimes and dollars are given, not so much for their material needs as for their human needs.

"Only the billions of the government can bring adequate relief to the nation's disabled defenders and their families, but there are things which the government with all of its billions cannot do. It cannot provide the understanding aid and personal attention that so often are such a big factor in a disabled man's rehabilitation; which so often hold his family together until he is able to return home.

"This the Legion and Auxiliary are doing with the help of the money you give on Poppy Day. By wearing a poppy you aid the disabled as well as honor the dead."

Capt. Bill Keefer, Home on Leave, Seeks More Duty

Eager to fly in the South Pacific, now that he has sent his Liberator bomber, "Liberty Lad" over France, Germany, Tunisia, Sicily and Italy, Capt. William E. Keefer is looking forward to more active duty in the Army Air Corps.

He arrived home here Sunday morning for a brief leave after winning the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal for his work in two fields of operations—Occupied France and Germany and North Africa. Capt. Keefer expects to remain here until about the first of June and then will report for duty again.

Despite his experiences on 21 raids, most of them as flight officer, he is the same "Bill" Keefer of the ready smile that his friends know. Clear-eyed, quiet, friendly, he looks just like the healthy, active boy who played baseball and participated in track at Torrance high school a few years ago.

Alaska Soldiers Select Lomita Girl for Honor

Winning a U.S.O. sponsored first prize for a photograph of an Alaska soldier's sweetheart came as a distinct surprise to Mrs. Harry Ardaiz, the former Wanda Downs of Lomita. She was recently notified that her photograph was submitted in the contest by her husband, Corporal Harry Ardaiz, who has been serving in the Army in Alaska for several months.

Mrs. Ardaiz did not know that her picture had been entered in the contest. The judges gave her first honors for "personality, grooming, expression and appropriateness of the entry in fulfilling the title, 'typical soldier's sweetheart.'"

Mrs. Ardaiz lives at 26437 Ozone ave., Lomita.

Photos Snapped by Churchill Still in Torrance Man's Collection

When Winston Churchill was a young "dandy" still in college and about to set out for his renowned adventure in the Boer war, when the Boers put a price on his head, he met G. H. Gibson, now of Torrance, in London. So Churchill today has a "fan" he probably doesn't remember who has watched his career through two wars.

Gibson, now 70, traveled all over the world for the Underwood & Underwood Photo Service. Churchill in London in 1900 snapped some of the hundreds of pictures Gibson treasures today.

Gibson has scores of photographs of the Tunisia area and is familiar with most of the territory where the Allies won a great victory.

"Churchill in those days seemed to have an omnivorous interest and was open-minded," Gibson recalls.

Gibson has a large collection of photographs of Italy, France, Belgium, Norway and other European countries and many from the Far East where he was assigned for six years. He built and later sold the Piedmont apartments in San Pedro and now lives at 2524 Torrance blvd., Torrance.

Second Section of This Issue Has More News

Reports of the brief talks made at the Army-Navy "E" award ceremonies conducted at the National Supply plant yesterday, together with news pictures and other interesting reports about employees at the war plant will be found on page 1-B and other pages in the second section of today's issue.

The second section also contains a report on the allocation of 1181 housing priorities granted by Federal agencies to builders ready to erect multiple-family rental units for local war workers. This information will be found on page 3-B.

Part-Time War Jobs Opening Up in Local Plants

Torrance war plants are moving actively to offer part-time employment to those who need to remain in peace-time jobs but at the same time want to contribute directly to Torrance war production, according to a recent survey by Edwin J. Puhols, local manager of the United States Employment Service.

While plants with rotating shifts naturally face some difficulty in employing part-time workers, nearly all Torrance war plants will eventually be able to use some half-shift help, he said. Plants with nonrotating shifts plan to follow the system already being successfully used by Lockheed, Douglas and other major aircraft companies.

The swing shift is divided into two four-hour periods, with one part-time worker working the first half of the shift and his or her "partner" working the last half. Thus, in one major Torrance plant there are openings now where the first part-timer would work from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and the second from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Puhols said.

Plan Weekend Jobs

Another Torrance plant, recognizing that workers may not always be able to arrange such a partnership, is considering a single five-hour shift lasting from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Moreover, this plant feels that the 10:30 quitting time would be more acceptable to part-time workers than would the past midnight time. Still another plant is considering the "week-end commando" system where students, and others who are normally unemployed Saturdays and Sundays, work full days on week-ends.

Current openings include stock clerks, stockroomers, machine operator helpers and many types of aircraft work. Most openings are in Torrance but plants in adjacent areas have numerous similar openings. The usual starting wage is 75 cents per hour, with increases as additional skill is acquired.

"No special skill or previous experience necessary."

(Continued on Page 5-A)

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